

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**TO BE PROPOSED:**

May 3, 2017

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education (SBE), pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 10-144d of the Connecticut General Statutes, appoints the following individuals to serve on the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards for a three-year term effective immediately and ending September 30, 2020:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Affiliation</b>      | <b>Representation</b>       | <b>Term Ending</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Marianne Downie, J.D. | The Hartford            | Business and Industry       | Sept. 30, 2020     |
| James Carl, Ph.D.     | Sacred Heart University | Teacher Preparation Program | Sept. 30, 2020     |

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this third day of May, Two Thousand Seventeen.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education

**DATE:** May 3, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Appointments to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards

**Executive Summary**

**Introduction**

Pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 10-144d of the Connecticut General Statutes, the State Board of Education (SBE) is required to appoint two of the 17 members to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards. One appointee is to represent the faculty or administration of a SBE-approved teacher preparation program and the other is to represent business and industry.

**History/Background**

The Council was established to (1) advise the SBE, the Governor, and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education concerning teacher preparation, teacher recruitment, teacher certification, teacher professional development, teacher assessment and evaluation, and teacher professional discipline; (2) review and comment upon all regulations and other standards concerning the approval of teacher preparation programs and teacher certification; (3) report to the SBE, the Governor, and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education annually on its activities and recommendations, if any, concerning the condition of the teaching profession; and (4) develop a code of professional responsibility for teachers not later than September 30, 1993.

On June 21, 1993, the SBE voted to adopt the code of professional responsibility located in the Regulations Concerning State Educator Certificates, Permits, and Authorizations (Section 10-145d-400a).

**Recommendation and Justification**

In order to restore full membership to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards the following individuals are recommended for appointment by the Connecticut SBE:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Affiliation</b>      | <b>Representation</b>       | <b>Term Ending</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Marianne Downie, J.D. | The Hartford            | Business and Industry       | Sept. 30, 2020     |
| James Carl, Ph.D.     | Sacred Heart University | Teacher Preparation Program | Sept. 30, 2020     |

A short biography and photo for each of the two nominees can be found in **Attachments A** and **B**.

**Follow-up Activity**

If approved, members will begin service effective immediately and will be asked to attend the next Council meeting scheduled for May 17, 2017.

Prepared by: Kim Wachtelhausen, Education Consultant  
Talent Office

Reviewed by: Shannon Marimón, Division Director  
Talent Office

Approved by: Dr. Sarah J. Barzee, Chief Talent Officer  
Talent Office



**Marianne M. Downie** – Ms. Downie is Assistant Vice President and Senior Counsel in the Property & Casualty Coverage Group, Law Department, at The Hartford Insurance Company. She joined The Hartford in 2004 and currently leads a team of lawyers in providing coverage advice and overseeing litigation involving such matters as environmental remediation, construction defect, and other complex claims. She is actively involved in The Hartford’s Professional Women’s Network (PWN), which promotes the career development of women. She served for five years as Co-Chair of PWN’s Community Outreach Committee. Prior board service includes serving for eight years on the Girl Scouts of Connecticut’s Board of Directors and as President/Co-President of the Dartmouth Alumni Club of Hartford.

Ms. Downie holds degrees from Dartmouth College and The University of Connecticut School of Law. Previously, she was Counsel for The Travelers Insurance Company and worked at the law firms of Bingham, Dana, & Gould and Schatz & Schatz, Ribicoff & Kotkin. She also served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Paul M. Foti of the Connecticut Appellate Court.

Ms. Downie lives in West Hartford with her husband, Jonathan Downie, and two sons, Britton and Chauncey. She looks forward to bringing her perspective from the business community to the work of the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards.



**James Carl** – Dr. Carl is the Dean of the Farrington College of Education at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut. As a leader of educator preparation programs, he is especially interested in moving the levers that translate teacher preparation and professional development into increased student achievement.

Prior to earning his Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dr. Carl taught history and economics at a public high school in New Hampshire. He also taught at a residential treatment center for adolescents. His research interests are the history and politics of education reform in the United States, Europe, and Asia. Dr. Carl's articles have appeared in *American Journal of Education*, *Comparative Education Review*, *Harvard Educational Review*, *Social Science History*, and *Teachers College Record*. His book, *Freedom of Choice: Vouchers in American Education*, explores privatization movements and the conflicting purposes of their supporters.

Before he was appointed Dean of the Farrington College of Education, Dr. Carl served on the faculty of education at John Carroll University in University Heights, Ohio, and as chair of the Department of Curriculum and Foundations at Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio.

In addition to his four children and their various interests, Dr. Carl enjoys cycling and soccer.